



City of San Diego

CARL DEMAIO
CITY COUNCILMEMBER –DISTRICT 5

TODD GLORIA
CITY COUNCILMEMBER –DISTRICT 3

SHERRI LIGHTNER
CITY COUNCILMEMBER –DISTRICT 1

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 16, 2008

TO: City Council

FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio
Councilmember Todd Gloria
Councilmember Sherri Lightner

RE: Reforming City Council Use of Stadium Tickets

It has come to our attention that the California Fair Political Practices Commission has issued revised regulations governing use of tickets or passes by elected officials for sporting and entertainment events. The revised regulation will require reform of the city's current practice of providing tickets to Councilmembers for admittance to the City's VIP boxes at Qualcomm Stadium and Petco Park—as well as for other sporting and special events.

In order to ensure compliance with the new regulation and to maximize the use of these tickets for the greater public good, we propose that the City Council amend Council Policies 700-22 and 700-47 to define the use of these tickets for the sole “public purpose” of recognizing community volunteers and providing tickets as raffle items for fundraisers for bona fide charities and 501-c3 organizations. No other use would be permitted for these tickets.

In addition to clearly defining the “public purpose” of these tickets, we suggest that the executive branch serve as the custodian and administrator of ticket distribution. In

identifying recipients of the tickets, city staff would solicit recommendations from City Council, City Attorney, and the Mayor.

The City Attorney's office has agreed to explore this option—and additional options—for bringing the city into compliance with the revised regulation. To solicit the input of all Councilmembers and the public on this issue, we ask that once the City Attorney's office has completed its review that this matter be taken up by the Rules Committee and returned to the City Council prior to the commencement of the baseball season.

CC: Mayor Jerry Sanders
City Attorney Jan Goldsmith